

# Kissinger Exit Urged In Wave of CIA Rumors

By Clark R. Mollenhoff

**WASHINGTON**—Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger should gracefully exit from the Ford Cabinet before he is further scarred by more disclosures of CIA involvement in the fall of the Salvador Allende government in Chile.

The handwriting is on the wall of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where lame-duck Chairman J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., will no longer be able to defend Kissinger from tough public questioning he has never faced.

Kissinger's role as chairman of the 40 Committee that approved CIA policies which undercut the Allende government has prompted criticism from many who were previously his closer friends and supporters in liberal circles.

Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, long a Kissinger admirer, vigorously questioned him about three State Department Latin-American affairs specialists under investigation for perjury on testimony before Church's foreign relations subcommittee on multinational corporations.

Church is making an issue out of the fact that several high officials of the government "lied" to Congress about the U.S. role in Chile, but stops short of accusing Kissinger of giving false testimony. He says that Kissinger gave "artful answers" that were deceptive. Only the interference of Fulbright kept Church and other members of the Foreign Relations Committee from even tougher questioning of Kissinger.

Rep. Albert Quie, R-Minn., has suggested that President Ford sweep out the whole Nixon Cabinet, including Kissinger. Quie later made one exception to the clean sweep: Secretary of the Interior Rogers Morton.

Quie could suggest no one else to replace him, but said that "Dr. Kissinger is not the indispensable man" and that President Ford could probably find some bright young man to serve in another Kissinger role, director of the National Security Council, while Kissinger is eased out.

Those who believe that Kissinger is indeed an indispensable man and would like to see him remain throughout Ford's tenure find little solace in Ford's carefully phrased praise of Kissinger at the U.N. General Assembly on Sept. 18.

"As a party leader in the Congress, of the United States, as vice president, and now as President of the United States of America, I have had the closest working relationship with Secretary of State Kissinger," Ford told the U.N. "I have supported and will continue to en-

dorse his many efforts as secretary of state and in our National Security Council to build a world of peace."

**THERE WAS** not a word as to how long President Ford will keep Kissinger, and only support of "his many efforts" to build "a world of peace."

Many admirers of Kissinger's achievements in Vietnam and the Mideast feel that he did not handle Cyprus well, and the efforts to make Ambassador Henry Tasca a scapegoat did not ride well with his many friends in Congress and the Foreign Service.

For four years, Kissinger was director of the National Security Council and President Nixon's

personal advisor on foreign affairs, before becoming secretary of state. In the capacity, he was able to claim executive privilege and defy requests by members of the Senate Foreign Relations and House Foreign Affairs committees to testify under oath.

Secretary of State William P. Rogers was sent to the Senate and House committees as the official spokesman, and because he wasn't kept informed by Nixon and Kissinger he could testify as to what he knew without giving away any of the Nixon-Kissinger game plans.

**IN THAT PERIOD**, Fulbright met frequently with Kissinger at lunch and arranged cozy little seminars for members of his Foreign Relations Committee where Kissinger could explain what was taking place on his own terms and not under oath.

From that time a warm mutual admiration developed between Fulbright and Kissinger. Fulbright has been his protector as charges have flown that Kissinger gave false testimony when he said he did not "initiate" the wiretaps on press members and National Security Council employees.

Under the guiding hand of Fulbright, a report was written clearing Kissinger of misrepresentations.

That put Kissinger back on top, but he now has nowhere to go but down. He should remember that the great image of Robert S. McNamara as defense secretary suffered when he stayed too long. His artful answers finally caught up with him.



*Distorted Image*

The Frigate Libertad of the Argentine Navy is shown here. The reflection of mooring lights in the water casts a distorted reflection on the mirror-like hull. The ship is visiting New England for a mission.

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